

The Forgotten Front By Tom Wolf

(Mr. Wolf, European war correspondent for NEA Service, is substituting today for Ernie Pyle who is on vacation but expects to return to an assignment on the war fronts in the near future. This is the second of three articles on Europe's "Forgotten Front.")

WITH FRENCH FORCES OF THE INTERIOR, Atlantic Front, Nov. 22.—Recently one of the Germans here, fed up with sitting and waiting for the inevitable defeat, came over to the F. F. I. lines to surrender. Thinking to be prudent, he dropped his rifle in No Man's Land and advanced towards the F. F. I. lines with his hands over his head.

His captors told him that they'd be delighted to accept his surrender, but before they could do so he would have to go back in his rifle. They needed it.

While this true story of the war on this Forgotten Front has its comic opera aspects, its serious undertones are anything but comic.

The F. F. I. forces here, opposing some 75,000 Germans pocketed in key Atlantic ports, are simply too short of guns and ammunition to overlook even this method of getting more.

It can be no secret to the Germans that the F. F. I. is over a barrel for equipment. Only a week ago the Nazis in one area captured almost intact a whole F. F. I. company which ran out of ammunition after a 10-minute battle.

The situation, of course, varies from sector to sector along this long segmented front. But during an extended tour of much of the front I found that overall conditions were fairly much the same everywhere. The war here is a sort of combination of Valley Forge and world war I.

Supplies Sadly Lacking

IT'S VALLEY FORGE in that so many front-line soldiers lack so much in the way of clothing and guns and ammunition. Luckily this is a countryside rich in agricultural fish and/or dairy products, so food is good and plentiful. It's world war I because it is static trench warfare with most of the activity limited to night patrols and shelling—shelling that is woefully one-sided.

The southern half of the Atlantic front is mostly semi-marsh, semi-pasture land interspersed with large stands of pine. Almost every tree in the pine forest is scarred with a slash at its base. It has been tapped for resin, from which was made the turpentine on which 90 per cent of the F. F. I. cars are run—90 per

Inside Indianapolis By Lowell Nussbaum

MRS. ROBERT BASON, 2306 N. Alabama, mother of Harry Bason, observed her 92d birthday Monday. A friend, Mrs. Asher Gray, sent her a birthday cake with 94 candles on it. Mrs. Bason counted the candles and then, womanlike, protested: "Why Mrs. Gray knows better than I do."

Still a third officer—a regular army colonel—said that until he could get properly warm uniforms for his men he could not and would not insist on military courtesy from them.

Such is the force of 40,000 volunteers who are manning for the allies the Atlantic front facing some 75,000 Germans in portpockets from Lorient to Bordeaux. Such is the force which is asking the allies for arms and equipment to drive the Germans into the sea.

The selection over again. To most of the audience Sevitzky's action probably was dismissed as mere "artistic temperament." Actually, it wasn't that at all, we're told. When the orchestra finishes playing a concert in a warm hall, the director and players are wet with perspiration. Opening of the side door caused a strong draft of cold air to sweep across the stage, threatening the players with colds or perhaps pneumonia. That's why Sevitzky objected. Fact is, he made no objection to those who were leaving by the main, or front, door, because that was too far away for the draft to reach the stage...

While rehearsing with the orchestra last week for his banjo solo, Rex Schepp, manager of WIRE, received a gentle rebuke from Sevitzky. The orchestra was playing from the musical score—Schepp from memory. Sevitzky would have them play a few bars here, then jump to another part of the piece. Several times Schepp had to stop over and look at the music to see where they were. Finally Sevitzky became annoyed and wisecracked: "Mr. Schepp, you should have the music in your head instead of your head in the music."

Here's the Dope

ONE OF OUR readers—Helen R.—asks "more information on the Thanksgiving date. Has it always been the last Thursday of November until 1941, or was that date set by presidential proclamation?" The World Almanac tells the whole story in few words, as follows: "Abraham Lincoln issued (1864) the first presidential proclamation fixing Thanksgiving day as a holiday on the fourth or last Thursday in November. In 1939, 1940 and 1941, observance was divided, when President Roosevelt proclaimed the preceding Thursday (meaning the third Thursday) for observance. On Dec. 26, 1942, he approved house joint resolution 41: 'Resolved by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled, that the fourth Thursday of November in each year after the year 1941 be known as Thanksgiving day, and it is hereby made a legal public holiday to all intents and purposes."

World of Science By David Dietz

SOLDIERS SUFFERING arm or leg wounds that involve injury to the nerves are receiving better treatment because of researches in nerve regeneration carried on under the auspices of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

The situation is a dramatic example of how studies in one field bring results in others that the layman would not seem related at first glance.

Because polio is a virus disease, it is entirely possible that researches on it may bring most important results bearing on such other virus diseases as influenza," Dr. Don W. Gudakunst, medical director of the foundation, says.

"In fact, the foundation is now supporting researches in leading universities on viruses other than that of infantile paralysis. The reason for that is that some viruses are easier to work with than others and it may be that the facts about infantile paralysis, strange as it may seem, come to light more quickly from the study of these other viruses."

Committees Do Research

BASIL O'CONNOR, president of the foundation, reveals that the foundation in the past 11 years has appropriated \$2,053,761 for virus research, \$1,405,292 for research on the after-effects of the disease, and \$637,546 for epidemiological studies, that is, how the disease is spread in epidemics.

The foundation does not do these researches itself. A number of committees, consisting of the nation's leading medical scientists, consider applications from scientists wishing to do research and determine how much money, if any, to grant for each proposed research.

My Day By Eleanor Roosevelt

NEW YORK, Tuesday.—Yesterday, in a number of places throughout the country, memorial services were held at the same time that funeral services took place at Groton for the late Endicott Peabody, who founded the school and was its headmaster for so many years.

Being the head of school; whether you are training boys or girls, is a tremendously important piece of work. It is hard to evaluate how far the influence of a man or woman with strong personality may reach. In the case of Mr. Peabody, he was always a forceful person, and his influence affected not only the boys, but the parents with whom he came in contact.

As the years went on, his influence became even greater. Not every boy loved him, but I think I have never heard of a Groton student who did not respect the rector.

The Indianapolis Times

SECOND SECTION

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1944

PAGE 7

BAN STIRS G. I.'s—

Army Editor Asks Cigaret Probe Abroad

By EDWARD P. MORGAN
Times Foreign Correspondent

LONDON, Nov. 22.—What bears all the earmarks of becoming the most colossal "beef" in the history of the U. S. army is being raised by American soldiers in the European theater of operations today over the sudden and mysterious shortage of cigarettes.

Sgt. Peter Lisagor, editor of the London edition of the Stars and Stripes, army paper, has embarked on a fearless editorial campaign to uncover the answer.

But so far he has encountered nothing except a rising flood of letters from both G. I.'s and officers, either demanding to know what is going on, or volunteering their own private suspicions of what is wrong, or both.

THE WORD "fearless" is used advisedly, because an indefinite ban on the scale of cigarettes in the E. T. O. post exchanges was ordered by Lt. Gen. John C. H. Lee, communications zone commander, who is also technically senior officer over the Stars and Stripes.

Yesterday Lisagor published a front page editorial demanding to know the reasons behind Lee's order.

Today, he carries on the battle with six articles, one cartoon, and a four-column picture spread featuring a shot of Yanks queuing to buy British smokes.

JEEVES NO LONGER SPEAKS SOFTLY FROM BERLIN—

Allies Arrest P. G. Wodehouse

By W. R. HIGGINBOTHAM
United Press Staff Correspondent

LONDON, Nov. 22.—P. G. Wodehouse, British author who created Jeeves in happier days and later was granted the freedom of all Nazi Germany, was under arrest with his wife in Paris today.

Officials confirmed reports that Wodehouse and his wife were in the hands of the police of liberated Paris, but withheld details of the charges against them.

The authoritative British Press association said British and French authorities were discussing the procedure to be followed against the pair.

The creator of Jeeves, the impeccably gentlemanly gentleman and a cohort of giddy Englishmen of what might be called the cafe society set, was caught up in the Nazi sweep through France in 1940 while he and his wife were giving a cocktail party at their Le Touquet villa.

MRS. WODEHOUSE was released.

Her humorist husband spent a year in a Nazi internment camp. In June, 1941, he was shipped to a room at the Adlon hotel in Berlin after accepting a German proposal that he broadcast non-political talks over the Nazi radio.

"I wouldn't have missed my present experiences for the world," he said in Berlin on June 25 after he received the full freedom of Germany.

He said he was broadcasting once a week to the United States by arrangement with the German foreign office—entirely about his personal experiences, with no politics.

"I NEVER have been able to

BELFORT EYEWITNESS—

Germans Hole Up in Castle And Defy Allied Ultimatum

By CLINTON B. CONGER
United Press Staff Correspondent

BELFORT, Nov. 21 (Delayed).—The fortress city of Belfort officially was occupied today but a defiant German major and three dozen men continued to fire into the streets from an ancient castle within view of two cousins of the Statue of Liberty.

A French tank force moved into the city with a minimum of the forenoon today completed the

of Belfort basking in the afternoon sun while at the moment Sherman tanks were churning upward along flanking routes to blast out the Germans.

Later while I was tied up in the usual traffic jam on a highway a few miles from Belfort I saw vivid flares arched through the darkening sky over Belfort's high eastern rim.

Presumably it was the signal that "objective was reached," that the castle was stormed and the Statue of Liberty's two cousins were at rest again.

THE French captured a prisoner from the castle this morning and sent him back at noon with an ultimatum to surrender. The ultimatum was rejected.

The streets of Belfort were almost deserted this afternoon due to the mortar shells which spattered down from the castle and caused a number of civilian casualties.

Local commanders told me the ultimatum was the last the garrison would get and that the castle would be stormed before nightfall.

Two gendarmes led me through winding back streets, zig-zagging to the lower grounds of the castle. It was necessary to hug the walls of buildings to escape the mortar shells and small arms fire.

The first published version of what the President said at Hyde Park, N. Y., on election day was in Time magazine, which quoted the President as saying "the god-damned thing won't work."

Shortly afterward the Glendale (Cal.) Ministerial Association took the President to task in a letter.

AT HIS NEWS conference yesterday Mr. Roosevelt was asked whether he said "anything sinister" in the Hyde Park voting booth.

Mr. Roosevelt replied that part of the published account was true, and then he proceeded to tell his side of the case just so, as he explained it, there would be no more letters from ministerial associations about it.

He said that when he went into the voting booth the mechanism was locked and he tried it twice but couldn't move it. Then he said, he called to election clerk Tom Leonard that "the damn thing won't work."

He added that some persons must have been awfully deaf because they added a short word which he did not use.

Again denying that he had been irreverent in his choice of language, the President said he supposed it was the reporter's privilege, but that the man was too deaf for a job like that.

He added that he would not ask the White House correspondents association to expel this unidentified reporter, but with a jest suggested that the association pay the expenses for sending the reporter to a good ear doctor.

BARNABY

Well-behaved bird, isn't he? Calm and poised.

I bet he doesn't know it's nearly Thanksgiving!

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